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EXAMINER

KE, PENG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2174

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/893,541

Applicant(s)

CABANES ET AL.

Examiner

Peng Ke

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-12, 14-22, 24-26 and 28-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-12, 14-22, 24-26 and 28-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 6/7/05.

Claims 1-8, 10-22, 24-26, and 28-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8, 10-12, 14-22, 24-26, and 28-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rivette et al. US Patent 6,499,026.

As per claim 1, Rivette teaches a user interface method for executing one or more operations in a computer for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal that is operatively associated with a plurality of data objects, the user interface method comprising the steps of:

displaying in a document pane at least a portion of a current object; (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

displaying in a map pane a K-map indicating objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to a selected K-map object; (figure 117, item 11710 “Group Window”, column 114, lines 40-46)

displaying in a preview pane contents associated with a preview object selected from the K-map, wherein the document pane, map pane, and preview pane are distinct display areas that are displayed simultaneously on a single display device; (figure 117, item 11708, column 114, lines 48-58)

receiving a user input; updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of the current object identity, the preview object identity, and a K-map parameter; and updating the K-map conditional upon the updating of a K-map parameter. (column 120, lines 8-62)

As per claim 2, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, (figure 122, item 12204, column 120, lines 8-62) and

a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map view selector based upon the received user input to correspond to a node view; (figure 164, item 16412; column 129, lines 64-column 130, lines 30) and

the step of displaying in a map pane the K-map includes displaying a non-hierarchical node view of the K-map. (figure 164, item 16412; column 129, lines 64-column 130, lines 30)

As per claim 3, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1. Rivette further teaches wherein: the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map class selector value based upon the received user input; and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects corresponding to the K-map class selector value. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 4, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 3. Rivette further teaches wherein: the step of updating a K-map class selector value includes updating the K-map selector value to correspond to one of a people class, a places class, and a things class based upon the received user input. (column 117, line 42-column 118, line 30)

As per claim 5, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1, wherein: the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map scope based upon the received user input; and the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope. (column 127, lines 6-35, The number of links between one note to another is an indication of strength between one note to another)

As per claim 6, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of an updated current object identity from the user through the K-map pane, the updated current object identity being one of the objects indicated in the map pane; (column 127, lines 6-35)

the step of updating; based upon the received user input, at least one of the current object identity, the preview object identity, (column 127, lines 6-35) and

a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map object to correspond with the updated current object; and the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the updated current object. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 7, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1. Rivette teaches wherein the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of an updated preview object identity from the user through the K-map pane, the selected object identity being one of the objects indicated in the map pane, the method further comprising:

displaying in the preview pane contents associated with the updated preview object without changing the displaying in the document panel.(column 125, lines 40-column 126, lines 8)

As per claim 8, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 1. Rivette wherein:

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a text entry through user highlighting of text in the document display pane; (column 118, lines 48-column 119,lines 44)

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map object to correspond with the received text entry; (column 118, lines 48-column 119,lines 44) and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the selected text. (column 118, lines 48-column 119, lines 44)

As per claim 10, Rivette teaches an apparatus for executing one or more operations in a computer for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal operatively associated with a plurality of data objects, the apparatus comprising:

a computer having a data storage coupled thereto, wherein the data storage stores the plurality of data objects; (column 14, lines 54-column 15, lines 30), and

one or more computer programs, performed by the computer for receiving a user input, updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, (column 127, lines 6-35)

a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter, updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter, displaying in a document pane at least a portion of the current object, (column 118, lines 45-column 119 lines 44)

displaying in a map pane the K-map, and displaying in a preview pane contents associated with the preview object. (column 120, lines 8-62)

As per claim 11, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, (column 127, lines 6-35) and

a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map view selector based upon the received user input the K-map view selector having at least a node view selection option (figure 164, item 16412; column 129, lines 64-column 130, lines 30) and a tree view selection option; (figure 117, item 11710 “Group Window”, column 114, lines 40-46) and

the step of displaying in a map pane the K-map includes selectively displaying one of a tree view and a node view of the K-map based upon the setting of the K-map view selector.
(column 125, lines 40-column 126, lines 8)

As per claim 12, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10, wherein:

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes

updating a K-map class selector value based upon the received user input the class selector including at least a people class selection option,

a places class selection option. and

a things class selection option; and the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects corresponding to the K-map class selector value.(column 120, lines 8-62; figure 121, items “Inventor”, “assignees”, and “Patent #”);

As per claim 14, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map scope based upon the received user input; and (column 120, lines 8-62)

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects within the K-map scope. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 15, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of the current object identity from the user through the K-map pane; (column 127, lines 6-35)and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects related to the current object. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 16, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10. Rivette further teaches wherein the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of the preview object identity from the user through the K-map pane. (column 138, lines 52-column 139, lines 42)

As per claim 17, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a text entry supplied through user highlighting of text in the document display pane; (column 111, lines 44-column 112, line52)

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating an object K-map parameter to correspond with the received text entry; (column 127, lines 6-35)and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects related to the selected text. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 18, Rivette teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10, further including: simultaneously displaying the document pane, the map pane, and the preview pane on a single display device. (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

As per claim 19, Rivette teaches an article of manufacture comprising
a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for executing an operation to perform a user interface method for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal operatively associated with a plurality of data objects, (column 14, lines 54-column 15, lines 30)

the method comprising the steps of generating a knowledge portal catalog cataloging data objects based on content, the knowledge portal contextually linking the objects based on document content; . (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

displaying in a document pane at least a portion of a current object; (column 118, lines 45-column 45)

constructing a K-map identifying related objects having content related to a K-map object as measured by a strength of relationship between the related object and the K-map object;

Art Unit: 2174

displaying in a map pane the K-map; (column 127, lines 6-35, The number of links between one note to another is an indication of strength between one note to another) and

displaying in a preview pane contents associated with a preview object selected from the related objects, the preview pane being displayed simultaneously with the document pane and the map pane. (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

As per claim 20, Rivette teaches (Previously presented) The article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19, wherein: the step of displaying in a map pane the K-map includes displaying a node view of the K-map limited to related objects having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object greater than a specified value. (column 127, lines 6-35, By limiting the displaying to a specific number of degrees, the K-map is limiting the displayed objects based on degree of the relevance)

As per claims 21 and 22, they are of the same scope as claims 3 and 4. Supra.

As per claim 24, Rivette teaches the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19.

Rivette further teaches wherein the method further includes:

receiving a selection of an updated current object identity from the user through the K-map pane; (column 127, lines 6-35)

constructing an updated K-map that includes objects related to the updated current object; (column 127, lines 6-35)

displaying the updated current object in the document pane; and displaying the updated K-map in the map pane. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 25, Rivette teaches the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19.

Rivette further teaches wherein the method further includes:

receiving a selection of the preview object identity from the user through the K-map pane. (column 118, lines 45-column 45)

As per claim 26, Rivette teaches the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19.

Rivette further teaches wherein the method further includes:

receiving a text entry supplied through user highlighting of text in the document display pane; (column 127, lines 6-35)and

updating the K-map to include objects related to the selected text. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 28, Rivette teaches a user interface for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal that is operatively associated with a plurality of data objects and contextually links the objects based on document content, the user interface comprising:

a means for receiving a user input;

a K-map processor for calculating a K-map corresponding to a current object and a set of K-map parameters, the K-map identifying objects indicated by a catalog of the knowledge portal as having content related to the current object; (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

a current object display pane for displaying at least a portion of the current object; a K-map display pane for displaying the K-map; (column 118, lines 45-column 119 lines 44)and

a preview pane different from the current object display pane for displaying contents corresponding to a preview object. (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

As per claim 29, which is dependent on claim 28, it is of the same scope as claim 2.

Supra.

As per claim 30, Rivette teaches the method of claim 28. Rivette further teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 28, wherein:

the set of K-map parameters includes a class parameter; and
the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects limited to objects corresponding to the class parameter. (column 117, line 42-column 118, line 30)

As per claim 31, Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 30, wherein:
the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; (column 127, lines 6-35) and
the class parameter is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating on a graphical class input dialog. (column 117, line 42-column 118, line 30)

As per claim 32, which is dependent on claim 30, it is of the same scope as claim 4.
Supra.

As per claim 33, which is dependent on claim 28. Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 28. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the set of K-map parameters includes a scope parameter; and

the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects limited to objects whose relationship to the current object falls within the scope parameter value. (column 117, lines 40-column 118, lines 30)

As per claim 34, which is dependent on claim 33. Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 33. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; (column 127, lines 6-35) and

the scope parameter is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating on a graphical scope input dialog. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 35, which is dependent on claim 34. Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 34, wherein the graphical scope input dialog is a slider bar. (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42, section "console tool bar")

As per claim 36, which is dependent on claim 28. Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 28.

Rivette further teaches wherein: the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42, section "console tool bar") and

the current object is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating within the K-map display pane, (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42, section "console tool bar")

As per claim 37, which is dependent on claim 28. Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 28, wherein:

the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; (column 127, lines 6-35) and

the preview object is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating within the K-map display pane, (column 118, lines 45-column 119 lines 44)

the updating of the preview object not affecting the current object display pane. (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42, section "console tool bar")

As per claim 38, Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 28. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the set of K-map parameters includes an object parameter, said object parameter being selectively updateable by the user; (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42) and

the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects related to the object corresponding to the object parameter. (column 120, lines 8-62)

As per claim 39, Rivette teaches the user interface as set forth in claim 38. Rivette further teaches wherein:

the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the document display pane whereby the user selectively updates the object parameter by selecting text corresponding thereto from the contents of the document display pane. (column 127, lines 6-35)

As per claim 40, Rivette teaches the user interface method as set forth in claim 7. Rivette further teaches wherein the preview pane contents associated with the updated preview object

and displayed in the preview pane are metadata stored in the knowledge portal rather than in the preview object itself. (column 115, lines 28-column 116, lines 42)

As per claim 41, Rivette teaches the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19, wherein the method further includes:

updating the K-map object to correspond to one of a group consisting of (i) a double-clicked K-map entry, (column 127, lines 6-35)

(ii) text in the document pane that is highlighted by a user, (figure 117, item 11706 “document window”; column 113, lines 65-column 115, lines 27: section “console”)

and

(iii) one or more search terms entered by a user; (column 120, lines 28-62)and

updating the displayed K-map to identify at least (i) related objects having content related to the updated K-map object, and (ii) a measure of a strength of relationship between each related object and the updated K-map object. (column 127, lines 6-35)

Response to Argument

Applicant’s arguments with respect to claims 6/7/05 have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to document presentation interface:

Gould US Patent 6,745,201: discloses a Poly Vectoral Reverse Navigation.

LionGosari US Patent 6,957,205: discloses a knowledge model-based indexing of information

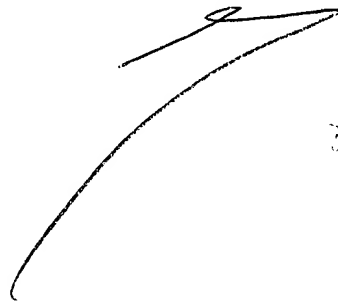
Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Peng Ke

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke that curves upwards at the end.